

Washington, D.C. and

July 11, 1904

Toronto, August 13th, 1913.

Miss Mary Ard MacKenzie,

578 Somerset St.,

Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Miss MacKenzie,-

I shall be glad to render any service I may to you when you are considering the question of Nurses' Training in Canada. I rather hesitate to promise to act on the Committee as my time is so much occupied already, but if you will consent to take what I can give after I have fulfilled my other duties I shall be glad to do what I may.

Yours sincerely,

President.

May 7th, 1914

Miss Mary Ann Mackenzie,
578 Somerset Avenue,
Ottawa.

Dear Miss Mackenzie:

I have read your report of the special committee on Nurse Education with a great deal of interest. I am not sure that I am quite willing to adopt at present the plan that you suggest of establishing nurse training schools or colleges separate from the Hospitals. It may be the ideal solution, and probably what you say about the lack of sufficient education is correct, but it seems to me to be rather premature to expect that such a solution of the difficulties will be brought about very rapidly. As I suggested I think when you were here a beginning might be made in some centre first, and its value proved. As a matter of fact that was the way the medical schools grew and then the Government became responsible for them.

Yours sincerely,

President.

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The Canadian National Association
of Trained Nurses.

President:
MISS MARY ARD. MACKENZIE, R.N.
Chief Superintendent Victorian Order
of Nurses for Canada
578 Somerset Street, Ottawa, Ont.

Secretary:
MISS DESBRISAY
56 Sherbrooke St. W.,
Montreal, Quebec.

May 8th. 1914.

President Falconer,
University of Toronto.

Dear President Falconer,

Thank you for your letter of the 7th. inst. You will notice in the report that no time is set for the carrying out of the proposed plans. In fact I realize that it will be a long time before we can expect anything like a perfected system, but my hope was and is that we can start people thinking along those lines.

The beginning, you mention, in one centre, might be made on the suggestions made in this report. I feel that a great deal depends on the way the report is received and, as we shall have representatives from all over Canada at our convention in July, it is difficult to know just where the plan will be tried first.

I endeavored in drawing up the report to make it plain that the Committee made the recommendations without expressing any desire on their part to have anything done hurriedly or without due consideration.

Would you kindly let me know what your suggestions would be for the report from this special Committee on Nurse Education? Of course, in this report, I can express only the opinions of the members of the Committee. My own individual opinions, I am expressing elsewhere and am perfectly willing to be wholly responsible for them.

Very sincerely yours,

Mary Ard. Mackenzie

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REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON NURSE EDUCATION.

The Convener of the Special Committee on Nurse Education begs to report on behalf of the Committee as follows;

The Committee consists of:

President Falconer,	Toronto.
" McLean,	Winnipeg.
Mrs. A. Shortt,	Ottawa,
Miss Retallack,	St. John.
" Colley,	Montreal.
" Cotter,	Winnipeg.
" Randall,	Vancouver.
" MacKenzie,	Ottawa.

Miss Stewart, Toronto, was appointed on the Committee, but withdrew, as she was leaving Canada.

The Convener has met with the members individually, and the rest of the work has been done by correspondence. The findings so far are:

That (1). ~~That~~ there is a general feeling of dissatisfaction among nurse-educators--a feeling of unrest, which is most hopeful.

(2). The nurse training is not an educative course: Because, (a), it does not develop character, (b), it does not fit the women for the practice of their profession. The course at present has a tendency to prevent the broad development of the whole woman, and on

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the professional side, trains only in hospital nursing.

(3), There is a falling off in desirable candidates. This is due to (a), the unnecessarily arduous course, making it imperative, in almost every case, for the women while training to cut themselves off from all means of culture. They work to the limit of their strength, and are expected to profit by lectures, when they are physically worn out. Often they are obliged to listen to lectures from people who are wholly unfitted to deliver them. Then when the three years' hard work is over they find themselves trained only in one line of nursing.

The suggested remedies:-

Establish Nurse Training Schools or Colleges, in connection with the educational system of each Province--the *raison d'être* of which will be the education of the nurse, not as it is under the present system, the lessening of the cost of nursing in the hospitals. These Schools should be separate from the hospitals, The hospitals will be used to supply the practical training. This should be a regular course given under the direct supervision of ~~the~~ experienced nurse teachers.

The School will have its staff of lecturers. There will be a regular pass course with certificate at end, if examinations--practical and written--are passed, and Honor or Special ~~courses~~ courses, in district and public health nursing, Social Service work, Hospital Administration and in the training of teachers of nurses, for which special certificates would be given.

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It is very desirable that something be arranged soon to provide some useful course for the young woman between the years of sixteen or eighteen and twenty-one. Those most valuable years, so far, have been lost for most of our women, who have chosen trained nursing as their life work.

This Committee would recommend that a Committee be appointed in each province to work out a scheme along these lines in connection with the Educational System of the Province.

Special attention is drawn to the part that the nurse training should play in any scheme of Vocational Training adopted by the Provinces.

A further recommendation is: That the whole matter be considered calmly—not from the personal stand-point, but from that of "Summum Bonum".

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ard. Mackenzie

Convener.

May 11th, 1914

Miss Mary Ann Mackenzie,
57c Somerset Street,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Miss Mackenzie:

I hardly would like to hold myself responsible for the plan for training nurses as outlined, but I am quite willing that you should present the report and also that your well considered views should have the fullest consideration. Before coming to a conclusion as to what the immediate practical steps are it will be necessary for me to think over the question longer and to get more definite information than I have at present. Could you not in a general way state that you are mainly responsible for the report of the Committee?

Yours sincerely,

President.